



590 Leland Avenue San Francisco, CA 94134

SPRING 2005

Inspiration



Goodbye 2004, Hello 2005!

Curt Yagi, Executive Director

It is hard to believe how quickly time flies by. It has been 2005 for a few months now and I still cannot get the year correct when writing in my checkbook. Although time seems to have quickly disappeared, ROCK's programs have experienced a dramatic rate of growth and evolution as we continue to offer the highest quality programs possible. Over the past 6 months ROCK has introduced and enhanced several of its programs to provide quality services for more kids. Did you know that...

- ...ROCK now offers a Martial Arts program for middle and high school participants led by Program Director Teodora Ildefonso.
- ...Teodora is a 2nd degree black belt in Shaolin Kempo.
- ...in response to a drop in grades at Visitacion Valley Middle School, ROCK worked directly with the principle, teachers and counselors to develop a homework assistance program.
- ...after a previous year of winning no games, the Visitacion Valley Elementary School girls soccer team, coached by Program Director Justin Johnson, won all but one game during the most recent season.
- ...during our holiday party, ROCK's participants experienced gingerbread house making, cookie decorating, arts & crafts and all in attendance received a present.
- ...ROCK so far this school year has had 8 volunteers, interns and staff members work as teacher assistants in classrooms at all public schools in Visitacion Valley.

Please know that the evolution of ROCK as one of the premier grassroots organizations in San Francisco would not be possible without the tremendous support of our wonderful donors, our dedicated volunteers and of course our caring staff. Together, with our participants and community, we are the ROCK Family. In this issue of Inspirations, we would like to introduce you to the entire full and part time staff of ROCK to help you better get to know a crucial segment of the ROCK Family. Wishing you a happy and safe 2005!

"Real Options for City Kids (ROCK) was founded in September 1994 in response to the needs within San Francisco for enhanced public education programs and positive after school activities. The mission of ROCK is to nurture the healthy development of children by listening attentively to their needs and by providing opportunities to those who might not otherwise have access. ROCK's mission translates into action through school-based and after-school learning enrichment programs combined with sports and fitness, leadership training and outdoor adventures for children, ages 6-14 in San Francisco's Visitacion Valley."

"Karate has taught me self defense and discipline. The people of ROCK are cool and doing a good job"

- Shawn, age 15



"I look forward to every Saturday morning - playing with these great kids. More than the play, I love talking with them. Hopefully I make a difference in their lives - they definitely add meaning to my life."

- Dana, Volunteer

"ROCK is fun and the volunteers are really cool"

-Babette, age 9



Melina, Soyhala and Natasha show off their Karate skill



Volunteers & Advisors

Alex Butkus	Dana Rohde	Eric Subido	Kathy Shurtz	Nate Zimmerman	Sifu Ann Docena
Amber Moyle	Daniella Reichstetter	Ethel Galo	Kelly Rush	On Your Feet Project	Tamara Romanea
Bay Area Scores	Darlene Bosch	Eugene An	Kim Nutter	Our Lady of the	Tiffany Subido
Bhavana	Dave Katz	Golden State	Kurt Kilgore	Visitation School	Toon Harritorn
Vishnubhotta	David Chan	Warriors	Lauren Lee	Paul Nepomuceno	Visitation Valley
Bill Rivette	Debbie Mesaros	Community	Liz Daly	Pete Blum	Beacon Center
Biren Bhandari	Deborah Davis	Relations	Lizzie Bowles	Phillip & Sala Burton	Visitation Valley
Brendan Byrd	Diana Jimenez	Heidi Kilgore	Luke Proskine	High School	Elementary School
Brian Fearnow	Dina Washington	Hope De la Vega	Lydia Ruggiero	Professor Samuel	Visitation Valley
Brian Kulich	Dina Wong	Ingrid Fraunfelder	Lyle Ross	Lucas	Latchkey Program
Bridgespan Group	El Dorado	Jay Wescott	Mateo Burtch	Rick Lewis	Visitation Valley
Carolyn Starrett	Elementary School	Jaylyn Silvestre	Mayor's Office of	Sara Weaver	Middle School
Charlene Mendoza	Elena Gumina	Jazmin Fisher	Neighborhood	Sarah Snow	Wally Tseng
Cheryl Mannion	Elise House	Joerg Schumann	Services	Saray Fey	Whitney Barrett
Chris Bitcon	Elizabeth Wood	John Lowry	Metmei Sevinc	SF Rec and Parks	Wholefoods
Chris Ginieccki	Ely Christina Galang	Judith Chendo	Michael Savitzky	Department	Wylie Peterson
Christopher Chang	Ely Rocio Galang	Kass Johnson	Mike Chan	Shannon White	Yamini Koshy
Dan Greenblatt	Eric Hansen	Kate Amanna	Mr. & Mrs. Foster	Shawn Davis	Zulima Ndongo
Dan Perkell	Eric Jordan	Kathy Butkus	Mr. Subido	Shawn Smith	Abeso

ROCK's Board of Directors

Chris Ginieccki	Lyle Ross
Dina Wong	Pete Blum
Kathy Shurtz	Rick Lewis
Luke Proskine	Wylie Peterson



Feel the love of ROCK

Financial Investors

Legends (\$10,000 & above) Eveyn & Walter Haas, Jr. Fund Louis R. Lurie Foundation Silver Giving Foundation All Stars Helping Kids	The Gemmer Foundation The Karl and Debbie Matthies Family Foundation Wells Fargo Wylie & Ann Marie Peterson	Geoffrey & Jennifer Skillman Mineral Acquisition Partners National Association of Black Female Executives in Music and Entertainment* Rebecca Evans* Sprint** The Gamskey Family Vista Equity Partners* Wholefoods*	Cheap Pete's* Cheryl Mannion Claudia Jasin Coco* Daniella Reichstetter Dave O' Mara* David Phom* Delores Butkus Dennis & Susie Sato Derric & Susan DesMarteau Deutsche Bank Elaine Schilling Elena Gumina* Elizabeth Callard Emma Gordon Eric Hansen Erik Mall Euro-Japan Auto Works F. Robert Burrows Fillmore Grill* First Crush* Fredrick Shumate Funky Door Yoga* Gap Foundation Howard & Neilda Sussman Identity Arts LLC* Oracle	Investor's Business Daily* Jack & Deborah Bellingham Jason & Shelna Saxon Jeff & Donna Gathers Jennifer Jones Jerome & Jocelyn Blum John & Lisa Vipiana John Home Johnny Tocora Karl Crawford Kirkwood Mountain Resort* Lisa Tabak Maggie & Ben Brown Magnolia Vinluan & Michael Chan Marcy & Wigs Wigeri Van Edema Margaret Wade Mark Kay Rivette Mary Babcock Metronome Dance Center* Minerva de la Paz* Nissa Hansen Noriko Shields* Oracle	Peggy Casey Peggy Rivette Performance Physical Therapy Pete Blum Peter & Janine Fraser Phillip & Rachel Bairley Rachelle Diamond Ron & Maia Starling Samuel A. Lucas* San Francisco Ballet* San Francisco 49ers* Sara Weaver Seth Krubiner Stephanie & Kelly Melancon Stephen Leveroni Steven & Beverly Beer Subiani* Syida Long The Sports Club/LA-San Francisco Tricia Ochoa Vince Jones W Reed & Lois Stelle Foster
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Champions (\$1,000 & above) Bally Total Fitness, Pinnacle, Gorilla Sports, Crunch* Bank of America Barnes & Noble Chris Ginieccki** David & Melinda Malin Frank Kares JJCJ Foundation, Inc Joan Soncini* Joie de Vivre Modestus Bauer Foundation Mountain Camp II Nicola Sandars** Olympic Circle Sailing Club* The Blues Jean Bar	Superstars (\$500 & above) Biren Bhandari eBay Foundation Honda Financial Corporation* Mezzanine* PSI World Rene & Kathleen Vignos Scott & Vicki Leslie** Thomas & Jennifer Soloway	Winners (\$250 & above) Brad & Trish Piatt Farrel Vance Hardee & Judy Kilgore Holly & Eric Moriarty Joshua Lenhert Kathy Shurtz Ping Li
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Meet the Staff



Curt Yagi - Executive Director

A long-time volunteer, Curt has no regrets for leaving his corporate world career to lead the ROCK Family. In his spare time, he loves to play soccer and other outdoor sports despite the creakiness in his joints that comes with many years of athletics. While not outside, you might catch Curt playing his bass guitar at a local San Francisco night club.



Justin R. Johnson - Elementary School Program Director

A native of San Francisco, Justin is an ideal member of the Family as kids seem to gravitate toward him because of his big smile, enthusiastic personality and cool dreadlocks. A native of San Francisco, Justin grew up with athletics which he applies to all of the elementary school programs. Outside of the office, you might catch Justin exposing his sensitive side while displaying his calming piano melodies.



Teodora Ildefonso - Middle/High School Program Director

Born, raised and still residing in Visitation Valley, Teodora is the perfect Family member to lead the older ROCKers. While not at ROCK, she loves to travel to a variety of places such as Norway, the Philippines or Hawaii. Just one reminder. Be careful what you say around Teodora, as she is a 2nd degree black belt in Shaolin Kempo.



Heidi Kilgore - Program Consultant

A long-time member of the ROCK Family, Heidi decided she couldn't get enough of ROCK and, with her husband Kurt, took on three foster children and recently officially adopted their baby brother. While not at work, Heidi likes to drive her kids to school, watch school basketball games, help with homework, you know, all the typical parent work. Be careful, if you ever catch her on the soccer field, she might nutmeg (i.e. kick the ball between your legs) you.



Tiffany Subido - Shaolin Kempo Assistant, Homework Helper & SALT Leader

Tiffany brings discipline and strength to all programs for the older ROCKers. She is a great role model and is very dedicated to the well being of our ROCK participants! Like Teodora, you wouldn't want to upset Tiffany, as she is well versed in Shaolin Kempo.



Nathan Zimmerman - Homework Program Coordinator, SALT Leader

Nathan comes to ROCK all the way from Hawaii and is a great addition to the Family. He brings warm smiles and the great Aloha love to many of the programs for the middle and high school participants. If you ever meet him, be sure to ask him about his DJ aspirations.



Roxanne Webb - Homework Helper, Soccer Assistant

"Roxy" as she is affectionally referred to by children in our after school program has a passion for working with children. She has worked with Autistic children and has provided social therapy to other children as well. Outside of working with children, Roxy enjoys cooking and shopping!



Liz Daly - In-School Learning Specialist

In addition to being a ROCK volunteer, Liz works for ROCK in the capacity of assisting many of the local elementary school teachers in their classrooms. The kids are lucky to have Liz, as she brings a tornado of energy and smiles to all of ROCK's programs. If you hang out with her long enough, you may catch her on Saturday mornings making up a crazy hip-hop dance with the kids.

Samantha Lui - Homework Helper, Arts & Crafts Leader

Samantha or "Sam" as she is called by children in our after school program not only has a love for children but a strong desire to give back to her community. She has worked as a tutor in Math and Computer Science but has recently discovered her niche working with young children. Outside of tutoring, Sam enjoys baking cakes and other sweets and loves listening to Classical Music.



The Hat Game at the ROCK holiday party

*Indicates in-kind donations
**Indicates both monetary and in-kind donations